

Cannon, Alcorn et al. to Andrew Jackson, December 8, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

CANNON, ALCORN, AND FIVE OTHER OFFICERS TO JACKSON.

December 8(?), 1813.

Major General Andrew Jackson . Haveing receivd. an order from Genl John Coffee in pursuance to your order to detach from our respective Regts. one half the men and company officers with all our horses to be sent into Madison County etc. the object of which is to enable us to perform further service and feeling as we all do an anxious wish to aid and assist as far as in our power in doing the same. Beg leave to suggest for your consideration a few remarks, hoping you will bestow a moments reflection on them—you know the situation of our horses that a great part of them cannot be able in any short time to perform further service, our men have come out with patriotic motives, but were advisd. not to bring their clotheing necessary for the present and approaching season numbers also have lost their horses and clotheing in the service and are already suffering with cold as well as hunger and if permitted to return only the shortest time to their homes would get fresh horses and bring clotheing prepard. to go with you through the winter season or untill the end of the campaign, we have the fullest confidence in you our Genl. and hope our conduct has inspird you with some confidence in us, you may rely on our being ready to perform the campaign with you in a shorter time. than is possible for our horses to be put in order in the way you have orderd. We find this only one sentiment pervades the whole of our men, and hope you will modify your order so as to permit the whole of the men and officers to return there or to their homes they may be relyd. on to march again into the field of action at the instant you order them with clotheing and horses prepard for the whole campaign. The officers commanding companies would pledge themselves and your men

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will not deceive you, in obeying your call again We much regret that the situation of the men under our respective commands has impelld. us thus to attempt to address you. and we hope you will condescend to hear us, for a moment consider this which we offer you with due submission to your former order.